

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/768,236

Applicant(s)

TADEPALLI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Fred Tzeng

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments of 3/30/2006 and 6/26/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 26-30, 34-36, 51-59 which are now renumbered as 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Fred Tzeng
Art Unit 2627



DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on March 30, 2006.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney, Mr. Mitchell K. McCarthy, on June 26, 2006.
4. The application has been amended as follows:

26. (Currently amended) A servo writer comprising:

a transducer configured for a data transfer relationship with a storage medium;

and

~~an enclosure that is operably movable in relation to the storage medium between~~

~~a merged position to enclose a portion of the storage medium and a retracted position to clearly unenclose the storage medium.~~

a fluid stripper upstream of the transducer in relation to a direction of storage medium movement;

a fluid dam downstream of the transducer in relation to the direction of storage medium movement; and
an actuator configured for imparting movement to the dam and the stripper between a merged position to enclose a portion of the medium and a retracted position to clearly unenclose the storage medium.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim 26 wherein the enclosure stripper in the merged position has a first surface in close mating engagement with an edge of the storage medium.

28. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim 27 wherein the enclosure stripper in the merged position has a second surface in close mating engagement with a data storage surface extending from the edge of the storage medium.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim 28 wherein the enclosure stripper in the merged position has a third surface in close mating engagement with an opposing surface to the data storage surface.

30. (Previously presented) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim 26 wherein the storage medium rotates in relation to the transducer.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 26 further comprising a linkage transferring the movement imparted by the actuator to one of the dam and the stripper to impart movement to the other of the dam and the stripper between the merged and retracted positions.

35. (Currently amended) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 26 wherein the fluid stripper movement is characterized as being pivotal movement around a pivot point.

36. (Previously presented) The ~~apparatus~~ servo writer of claim 35 wherein the fluid dam movement is characterized as being pivotal movement around a pivot point.

37. – 50. (Canceled)

51. (New) A servo writer comprising:
a transducer configured for a data transfer relationship with a storage medium;

an enclosure operably movable between a merged position to enclose a portion of the storage medium and a retracted position to clearly unenclose the storage medium, the enclosure comprising:

a stripper upstream of the transducer in relation to a direction of storage medium movement;

a dam downstream of the transducer; and

a shroud fixed in movement with the dam and operably disposed in a close mating engagement with an edge of the storage medium between the stripper and the dam.

52. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 further comprising an actuator configured for imparting movement to the dam and the stripper between the merged position and the retracted position.

53. (New) The servo writer of claim 52 further comprising a linkage transferring the movement imparted by the actuator to one of the dam and the stripper to impart movement to the other of the dam and the stripper between the merged and retracted positions.

54. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the enclosure in the merged position has a first surface in close mating engagement with an edge of the storage medium.

55. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the enclosure in the merged position has a second surface in close mating engagement with a data storage surface extending from the edge of the storage medium.

56. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the enclosure in the merged position has a third surface in close mating engagement with an opposing surface to the data storage surface.

57. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the storage medium rotates in relation to the transducer.

58. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the stripper movement is characterized as being pivotal movement around a pivot point.

59. (New) The servo writer of claim 51 wherein the dam movement is characterized as being pivotal movement around a pivot point.

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 26-30, 34-36 which are now renumbered as 1-8 are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the prior art of record teaches or fairly suggests that

a servo writer comprising a fluid stripper upstream of the transducer in relation to a direction of storage medium movement; a fluid dam downstream of the transducer in relation to the direction of storage medium movement; and an actuator configured for imparting movement to the dam and the stripper between a merged position to enclose a portion of the medium and a retracted position to clearly unenclose the storage medium.


Claims 51-59 which are now renumbered as 9-17 are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the prior art of record teaches or fairly suggests that a servo writer comprising an enclosure operably movable between a merged position to enclose a portion of the storage medium and a retracted position to clearly unenclose the storage medium, wherein the enclosure comprising a stripper upstream of the transducer in relation to a direction of storage medium movement; a dam downstream of the transducer; and a shroud fixed in movement with the dam and operably disposed in a close mating engagement with an edge of the storage medium between the stripper and the dam.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Fred Tzeng whose telephone number is 571-272-7565. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Thi Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 571-273-7565 for After Final communications.

8. Informal regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (**PAIR**) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Tzeng", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fred F. Tzeng

June 26, 2006